



2012 DAWN Year-End Report

The year 2012 was another challenging year for DAWN, as it continued to provide assistance and support to returned women migrants and their children. Below are the various activities of DAWN, as well as the different assistance it provided to its members.

SOCIAL SERVICES PROGRAM (SSP)

The Social Services Program is the entry point of women and children members of DAWN. Through the pre-orientation and intake interviews, prospective members learn about the work, the programs, and services of the organization.

The program handled a case load of 79

women and 93 children for the year 2012. This does not include yet the number of inquiries from walk-in clients, from the internet, and those referred by the Japan Embassy and other government and media organizations.

Most of DAWN's women members were referred by the Embassy of Japan. Majority of them come from the National Capital Region and from Region IV, although there are a few from far provinces. More than two-thirds of the women are employed.

Of the 93 children members of DAWN, more than half are males. The youngest is ten months while the oldest is 24 years old. Nine of them were born in Japan and

the rest were born in the Philippines. In collaboration with other programs, and with the assistance of DAWN's Japanese volunteers, eleven of the children were able to meet or have communications with their Japanese fathers.

Regular counseling and life coaching activities were provided to both the women and children members. Seminars on Self-Awareness, Value Clarification, Parenting and Family Dynamics were conducted for new members. Group work sessions were also conducted for the women and children which focused on different issues relevant to them.

(Continued on page 2)



The DAWN Family Christmas Get-Together 2012

(Continued from p. 1 "21012 DAWN...")

Regular DAWN activities such as the holding of DAWN anniversary, Family day, Mother's day, and Christmas get-together were held. The women also participated during International Women's Day march. In October, the women and children participated in the seminar-workshop on "Revisiting R.A. 9208," an activity conducted jointly with the DSWD-NCR. Other activities where the women and children joined were the zumba marathon organized by Philhealth and the International Migrants day celebration in December organized by the Philippine Migrants Rights Watch (PMRW).

The women and Japanese-Filipino children (JFC) were also assisted in the translation of their documents (from Japanese to English and vice versa) by the Japanese volunteers of DAWN. They were also assisted in securing necessary documents, such as koseki, passports, birth certificates, and other documents.

In coordination with the other programs of DAWN, the DAWN Japanese Filipino Children for Change (DAWN-JFC) was further strengthened. A leadership training seminar was held for them in October. DAWN-JFC also held their annual meeting and election of new officers.

In partnership with the other programs, several women and children became active advocates of DAWN. They were also tapped to help facilitate some activities and provide other forms of assistance

during activities. Educational assistance was provided to twenty children through the Asian Community Trust (ACT). Health care assistance was also provided to the women and children.

In coordination with DAWN's Alternative Livelihood Program, five more women, in addition to the six last year, were assisted in getting fund assistance from the DSWD-NCR for their livelihood project.

Coordination with organizations such as DSWD-NCR Crisis Intervention unit, Bureau of Immigration, the Japan Embassy, the Manila, Quezon City and Paranaque Social Welfare offices were made in relation to the cases of DAWN members.

The social case study reports were completed and updated. Home and school visits were also conducted.

RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND ADVOCACY PROGRAM (REAP)

Four quarterly issues of DAWN's official newsletter "SINAG" were published for the year 2012. These have been distributed and sent electronically through e-mail and by snail mail to various individuals, organizations and networks of DAWN. The staff, women and children members, as well as volunteers contributed articles and photos for the various issues. The articles were also sent to DAWN-Japan for translation and publication into Japanese.

Theater workshops were conducted for both the women and children members of DAWN. The women members of Teatro Akebono held performances at the St. Scholastica's College in May and at the Makati Palace Hotel in October.

Before leaving for Japan, the children presented their play "Crane Dog" at the St. Scholastica's College on May 11, back to back with the women's play "Misty." The

children had their theater tour to Japan from May 13-27. Presentations were held in the following places: Jichiro Conference Hall in Tokyo, Makoto Center in Tokyo, Yokohama National University, at the West Plaza in Saitama, at Yaeu in Shizuoka, the University of Shizuoka, Kozoji Church in Nagoya, Chubu University in Aichi, and at the Osaka University. The staff and children members of DAWN also met with legislators and representatives from the Diet and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. They also had activities with high school students from the Momodami High School in Osaka, as well as with university students from Yokohama National University, University of Shizuoka, Chubu University, and Osaka University.

Aside from the theater workshop, some women and children members of DAWN also joined the Noh theater training conducted in partnership with the UP Center for International Studies in February to March. They had a recital at the UP Theater in March.

DAWN accommodated and hosted several individual and group study tours from various local and Japanese universities, as well as organizations from other countries. Visits from the following institutions and groups were welcomed: Yokohama National University, Bunkyo Gakuin University, Hiroshima University, Kwansai Gakuin University, Tokyo University, Waseda University, RMIT Australia, Mirai ni Kibou, University of Sto. Tomas, St. Scholastica's College, University of the Philippines and the Asian Community Trust (ACT).

In 2012, the following did volunteer work and internship at DAWN – Yuto Kawasaki, Miwa Kanagawa, Mike Abe, Mizuki Kamo, Saori Takagi, and Rumi Medoruna. They all participated in the various programs and activities of DAWN. DAWN-Japan members Chiho Ogaya and Sumire Usui also came to assist in the programs of DAWN.

DAWN remains a member of various networks and alliances that advocate issues on migration, women and children. It is a member of the Philippine Migrants Rights Watch, with DAWN Executive Director serving as its President for the past several



Leadership training for DAWN's children members

years and DAWN as the Secretariat of PMRW; the OFW Journalism Consortium; Philippines-Japan NGO Partnership; the Coalition against Trafficking in Women in Asia and the Pacific; and, CARAM-Asia. DAWN's Executive Director is one of the global advisers of Vital Voices. Aside from the membership in these networks, DAWN maintains active partnership and collaboration with other local and international organizations.

DAWN participated in various local and international meetings, conferences and forums in order to share and learn, and to advocate its issues. These included attendance in the Forum on Social Security of OFWs, Forum on the Protection of Domestic Workers' Rights, Conversation on Protection of Asian Domestic Workers Rights Consultations with the UN Special Rapporteur (UNSR) on Health and the UNSR on Trafficking, Global Forum on Migration and Development, World Social Forum on Migrations, and International Migrants Day in December, to name a few.

The staff and women members of DAWN participated during the celebration of International Women's day on March 8. They were also provided with workshops on gender mainstreaming and awareness. The women and children members of DAWN also took part in the seminar-workshop on "Revisiting R.A. 9208," a project in collaboration with DSWD-NCR.

DAWN likewise actively engaged government officials and agencies, as well as Congress, in advancing issues pertaining to the rights and welfare of women migrants and their children.

ALTERNATIVE LIVELIHOOD PROGRAM (ALP)

Five women are regular Sikhay members. Rosalie Akase, Anna Liza Yambao and Mary Jane Kuraoka are part of the weaving group, while Luz Cecilia Ozawa is with sewing. Anna Liza Yambao and Gilda Mosatalla are in charge of running the DAWN Wellness Center.

Meanwhile, nine women trained in sewing and pattern-making, while three women were provided with training in weaving.

Sikhay products continue to be available

in the Philippines and in Japan. In the Philippines, they are sold at the DAWN office. The Echo Store, Gifts and Graces Fair Trade Foundation, La Monja Loca in Intramuros, Uniquease Restaurant in Makati, Salt Foundation, JICA Manila, Ant Hill in Cebu, and the Southern Partners and Fair Trade Center in Cebu help sell Sikhay products. In Japan, DAWN's networks also helped boost the sales of the products. These are the DAWN-Japan, DAWN KUIS, Peace Boat, Global Narunia in Niigata, Patchwork, Yumeuta in Saitama, and the shop of Ms. Yoriko Nakahira in Urawa. DAWN volunteer Yuto Kawasaki also helps promote and sell Sikhay products in Osaka.

Sikhay collaborated with the Philippine Textile and Research Institute for the training in developing new designs in weaving. Other groups that provided support to the program included the Department of Social Welfare and Development, the PUP College of Cooperatives, OISCA in Bacolod, Ms. Amparo Umali of UP-CIS, and Bococo Social Enterprise. Assistance were provided by Ai no Kampa of Japan, the wife of the Philippine Ambassador to Japan Mrs. Theresa Lopez, and ACT.

Five more women members of DAWN qualified as beneficiaries to the DSWD assistance project for trafficked women. This makes a total of eleven women who underwent a series of interviews and seminar at the DSWD-NCR office and started their individual projects.

The DAWN Wellness Center continues to provide services in hair coloring, hair cutting, manicure, pedicure, foot spa, and massage.

The Coordinator of ALP is also in charge of the theater workshops of the women, as well as in directing the musical plays of the women. The play "Misty" was presented at the St. Scholastica's College in May and at the Makati Palace Hotel in October. Presentations were also held for some visitors of DAWN.

The ALP program of DAWN continues to assist and guide the Board, officers and



Visit of Mrs. Theresa Lopez, wife of the Philippine Ambassador to Japan

members of the DAWN Multi-Purpose Cooperative in running and developing the cooperative.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCE

The Administrative and Finance section implemented the standard systems and procedures necessary for the smooth functioning of the organization. These included the timely processing of business permits, submission of contribution reports to the SSS, Philhealth and the BIR, as well as facilitating the preparation of the Financial Statement and ITR of DAWN, and managing the funds raised for the organization.

Support was given to the staff for the continuous upgrading of their knowledge and skills through participation and attendance in various conferences and forums. These included attendance and participation in the Forum on Stateless Children, World Social Forum on Migrations, the Global Forum on Migration and Development, Forum on Reintegration and Development, Forum on Migration and HIV-AIDS, among others.

Capacity-building workshops and trainings were availed of by the staff. These included the Participatory Gender Audit seminar organized by UN Women and a capacity-building seminar organized by the PMRW.

The Administrative and Finance officer helped in the submission of proposals to selected funding partners. Grants and donations were received from ACT, the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, UN Women, the JICHIRO and RENGO, as well as from individual donors.

Revisiting R.A. 9208

By Liza S. Garcia

On October 29-31, 2012 the Development Action for Women Network (DAWN) had its first partnership with the Department of Social Welfare and Development - National Capital Region (DSWD – NCR) office for the conduct of a seminar-workshop on the issue of trafficking in persons. The activity hopes to help prevent trafficking in persons by increasing the knowledge and awareness of people on the issue, and to make advocates of trafficked women and other stakeholders.

Nine years since the passage of Republic Act No. 9208 or the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act, there is still a need to fully understand it and make people aware of the issue, including effects on the victims. The seminar-workshop is also an opportunity for those who went to work abroad and became victims, to speak up and be heard. Aside from the trafficked women, present during the 3-day activity were representatives from DSWD-NCR, NGO workers, students and youth advocates.

DAWN Executive Director Carmelita

Nuqui opened the program. Her welcome remarks were followed by the Keynote message delivered by DSWD-NCR Assistant Regional Director Delia Bawan.

A presentation about the programs and activities of DAWN was delivered. It was followed by an excerpt from the musical play of DAWN's women members "Misty."

Prof. Aurora Javate-De Dios, Executive Director of the Women and Gender Institute (WAGI) of Miriam College, who is also with the Coalition against Trafficking in Women – Asia-Pacific, gave an overview of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons law and discussed the need to amend the law. She cited a few recommendations to the pending bill for the amendment of the law.

Prof. De Dios' presentation was followed by the sharing of two women who were trafficked abroad. Vangie Cerezo and Eunor Samuray recalled how they were trafficked. They shared their experiences and the things they had to go through while

working overseas.

Following the testimonies of Vangie and Eunor, Atty. Samson Inocencio, Field Director of the International Justice Mission, talked about legal remedies and options. He explained the definition of trafficking in persons and discussed how to assist victims and file a case.

Mr. Froilan Maglaya, Gender Focal Person of the DSWD-NCR, discussed the Recovery and Reintegration program for trafficking survivors of the DSWD. He talked about the direct assistance and services that trafficked persons can avail of which includes the provision of financial assistance while awaiting employment, and the provision of capital assistance, among others.

Mr. Joselito Lord of the Blas Ople Policy and Training Center talked about the prevention of trafficking in persons. Based on their work and dealings with trafficked victims, he shared with the participants some practical ways and tips to avoid



Participants to the seminar-workshop on Revisiting R.A. 9208



DAWN Exec. Director Mel Nuqui and DSWD-NCR's Froilan Maglaya handing out the token of appreciation to Prof. Oyie De Dios of WAGI

Participants of the seminar-workshop shared the results of their workshop during plenary session

being victimized and to help prevent the occurrence of trafficking.

Ms. Susan Ople dropped by to share with the seminar-workshop participants the work that the Blas Ople Center does, which includes the provision of assistance to OFWs, skills training for returnees, and repatriation services.

Mr. Lord's presentation was followed by the workshop on preventing trafficking in persons. The participants were divided into four groups and each group was tasked to come up with their suggestions and recommendations on how to help curb trafficking in persons. Some of the recommendations, which were reported during plenary, included the creation of jobs and livelihood opportunities for Filipinos, so that they do not have to

work abroad; stricter implementation of laws and policies on overseas migration; information dissemination and sharing; partnerships and networking between and among various groups involved in trafficking; strengthening of the RIACAT in the regions and the possible creation of its counterpart in local government units; and access to basic services and faster delivery of services, among others.

Prof. Zandro Estella of the PUP College of Cooperatives talked about the support they provided the DAWN Multi-purpose Cooperative (DAWN-MPC), including the result of the evaluation they conducted. His presentation was followed by a sharing of Ms. Mary Joy Barcelona about the work that the DAWN-MPC does.

The presentations were followed by another

workshop, this time on building capacities and reintegrating trafficked persons. Again, the participants were grouped into four. Each group reported the outcomes of their discussions during the plenary. Some of the recommendations shared included the training of and providing jobs and opportunities to trafficked persons; faster delivery of services and assistance to trafficked persons; an efficient referral system, including the identification of government and non-government agencies where trafficked persons can be referred to; sharing of best practices; and, information sharing and dissemination.

The activity ended with the handing out of Certificates of Appreciation to all the seminar-workshop participants.

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People, Places, Events



DAWN Executive Director Carmelita Nuqui with CFO Exec. Director Mary Grace Tirona and the 2012 Migration Advocacy and Media awardees



DAWN staff, volunteers and members who participated in Philhealth's Zumba marathon held at the MOA grounds on December 9



Masami Ochi and Miho Watanabe of the National Women's Education Center, Japan visited DAWN in November



DAWN Executive Director Mel Nuqui and Mr. Brahm Press of Raks Thai during the workshop on Migration and Health organized by CARAM-Asia at the WSFM 2012 on November 27



DAWN-JFC elected their new set of officers last October 26



DAWN staff attended the PMRW Capacity Building seminar held in Antipolo City from October 18-19

SIKHAY CORNER

By Mary Joy E. Barcelona

A Day of Celebration!

After months of sharing and learning together, finally the graduates reaped the fruits of their hard work and challenges. Last November 24, 2012 we celebrated the graduation day of the sewing and weaving trainees at DAWN. There were 7 graduates in sewing - Luz Ozawa, Rita Gliponeo, Celia Tribunal, Arcela Ticong, Eunor Samuray, Zita Felarca and Gilda Mosatalla - and two in weaving - Eunor Samuray and Zita Felarca. The graduates proudly modeled the products they made through a fashion show. They showcased the items they created, such as scarves, shawls, dresses, pants, skirts, blouses, and others.

The graduation was attended by the Japanese-Filipino children who were amazed at what their mothers were able to make, DAWN women members, friends, volunteers and staff. It was a happy occasion made more meaningful when we requested our special guest, Ms. Megumi Nishijima of ACT, to deliver a message for the graduates.

"I am happy and proud that ACT is part of this journey of the women," Nishijima

said.

She further said that she will share with her colleagues in ACT her experience at DAWN when she goes back to Japan.

Ms. Santa Bodino, who was the women's instructor in pattern-making, was a bit emotional when she delivered a short message for the graduates, because she has already built friendship with them. She shared that she can relate with the women because she is also a single parent. She knows the many challenges in raising their children, as well as the hard work and dedication needed to learn a new skill that one can later use to be their source of income for the future of their children.

"I am not a teacher, but my faith taught me to be humble to share my knowledge and skills to others," said Teacher Santa.

On behalf of the graduates, Eunor Samuray, who was referred to DAWN by the Blas Ople Policy and Training Center, expressed everyone's gratitude for the training.

"We are thankful to DAWN for all the

encouragement and support. We especially thank our trainers Rosalie Akase in weaving and Mary Joy Barcelona in sewing, as well as the Sikhay members Anna, Luz, and Jane. We did not only learn the skills but we also learned many things during other activities and sharings."

The graduation ended with the graduates singing the song Handog (Offering) by Florante. They were later joined by everyone in singing.

Again, congratulations to the graduates! You make us proud. Your achievements encourage us to continue doing and improving what we have started. We also wish to acknowledge Maligaya House and the Blas Ople Policy and Training Center for collaborating with us.

The training of the women was supported by ACT Japan.



The graduates together with Ms. Megumi Nishijima of ACT and trainers Santa Bodino and Mary Joy Barcelona



SINAG (akebono or yoake in Japanese) means dawn or daybreak.

It is the quarterly publication of the Development Action for Women Network (DAWN), a non-government organization devoted to issues concerning migrant women and their Japanese-Filipino children.

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Building Capacities of Women through Social Enterprise: The DAWN-MPC Model

*By Prof. Zandro Estella**

The International Labour Organization Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ILO-ROAP) recognizes the role played by the Development Action for Women Network (DAWN) - a non-governmental organization assisting in the welfare of Filipina migrant workers who used to work as entertainers in Japan by setting-up a cooperative, the DAWN MPC in 2008 as part of their intervention program to help women. The program, in partnership with the PUP College of Cooperatives and Social Development, was awarded as an emerging model of Best Practice in Asia and the Pacific by ILO under its Decent Work Agenda on May 7, 2009. Their achievement and success story presented in ILO's study on the Economic and Social Empowerment of Returned Victims of Trafficking in Thailand and in the Philippines: *Coming Back, Moving On, Life after Human Trafficking* fueled and inspired the women to carry out their cause for a common benefit.

Through the years, the College of Cooperatives and Social Development



supported the women under its extension services program by giving trainings relevant to their operations. Last year, in an effort to assist the group in evaluating its programs, the College of Cooperative conducted a study to measure the role played by the cooperative in building the capacity of the women through social entrepreneurship. Both the qualitative and quantitative methods of research were used in the study.

Data collected from the members of the cooperative revealed that the cooperative's program helped the women become independent, motivated, and business-

oriented. Their incomes also increased. Through their engagement with DAWN and the DAWN-MPC, they regained trust and confidence with other people and has changed their views in life after their sad stint working abroad.

Despite the challenges in setting up and running a cooperative, the DAWN-MPC has achieved a lot considering that it started only in 2008. However, it has to further strengthen its base and motivate more women to join and be more active in the cooperative. Based on the responses of the women interviewed, they hope that more activities can be conducted through the cooperative which includes exposure trips and study visits to other cooperatives where they can learn from others, more business trainings for the members, as well as networking with other groups.

**The research was conducted with PUP College of Cooperatives and Social Development students Rose Ann Barquez, Jimmel Dignom, Arjay Lelis, Jerome Manrique and Calvin Mercado*

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